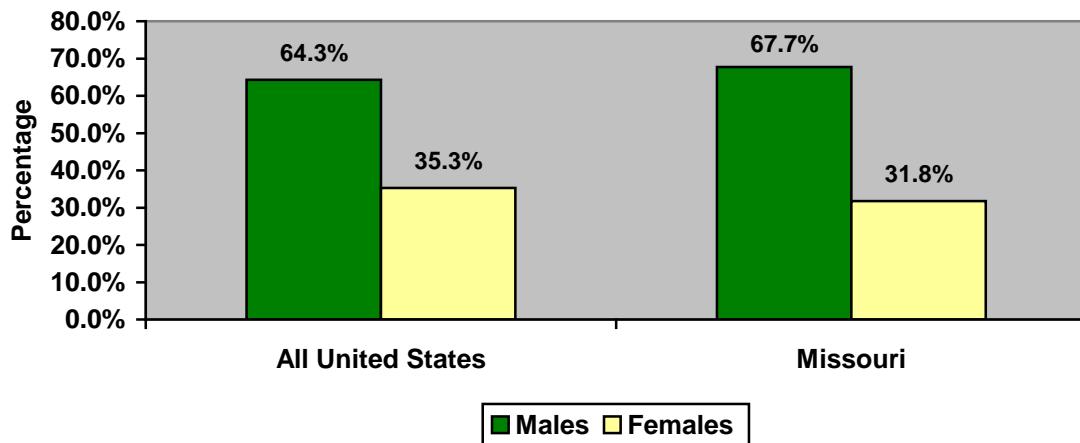


Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work among Women, Missouri Private Industry Sector, 2007

Men are more likely to sustain injuries and illnesses on the job than women. 2007 nonfatal occupational injury and illness data collected by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DOLIR) indicated that this is true both at the national level (All United States) and in Missouri. Cases with days away from work can represent those more serious injuries and illnesses sustained by workers, who are unable to return to work for one or more days, or are transferred to a different job or are restricted to the types of work they are able to perform.

Although women represented about 46 percent of the Missouri workforce during 2007, they experienced less than one-third of the nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses (Chart One). At the national level, women experienced about thirty-five percent of these injuries and illnesses. This disparity in workplace injuries and illnesses between men and women can be explained to some degree by the differences in the industries they work in and the types of occupations they are employed in. In essence, because men and women work in different types of jobs, there are differences in how and why they incur workplace injuries and illnesses.

Chart One: Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Gender - All United States and Missouri, Private Industry, 2007*



*Gender not reported accounted for .42 percent of All United States 2007 cases with days away from work and .46 percent of Missouri 2007 cases with days away from work.

Age

Table One indicates that during 2007, 26.9 percent of the women who sustained injuries or illnesses were in the 45 to 54 age group. Women aged 35 to 44 accounted for 23.8 percent of the injuries and illnesses. The third highest group was women aged 25 to 34 at

19.4 percent. Women in the youngest and the oldest age group comprised the smallest percentages of the injuries and illnesses incurred in the workplace.

Table One: Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work, Women and Age Group, Missouri Private Industry Sector, 2007

Age	Number of Injuries and Illnesses	Percentage of Injuries and Illnesses
16 to 19	120	1.9%
20 to 24	690	11.1%
25 to 34	1,200	19.4%
35 to 44	1,480	23.8%
45 to 54	1,670	26.9%
55 to 64	890	14.3%
65 and older	160	2.6%

Occupation

Women comprise about 51 percent of the Missouri civilian non-institutional population and about 46 percent of Missouri's civilian labor force. A chief reason why women experience less nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses than men is that women usually have different types of jobs than men. Women typically do not work in occupations or in industries that tend to have higher numbers or incidence rates of injuries and illnesses. Table Two (page 3) depicts the percentage of women's 2007 employment in top male traditional jobs. Women make up less than 25 percent of the employment in each of the male traditional jobs listed in the table.

Table Three (page 4) indicates that in Missouri during 2007, the occupational groups with the highest numbers of injuries and illnesses were transportation and material movers; service workers; production workers; construction and extractive workers; and installation, maintenance and repair workers. In these occupations combined, males accounted for over three-fourths of the workplace injuries and illnesses. Males also accounted for nearly all of the injuries and illnesses in the construction and extractive occupations and the installation, maintenance and repair occupations.

There are some occupations where women incur more nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses than men, mainly because women dominate the employment in these occupations. In Missouri, women sustained the majority of injuries and illnesses in the management, business, financial occupations; professional and related occupations; service occupations; sales and related occupations; and office and administrative support occupations. These occupations combined accounted for about three-fourths of female work-related injuries and illnesses during 2007.

Industry

Table Four (page 5) depicts the distribution of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses for men and women by private industry sector. The private industry sector is divided into the goods-producing industries and the service-providing industries. Women working in the goods-producing industries in Missouri comprised about 16 percent of nonfatal

occupational injuries and illnesses. Women comprised a higher percentage in the service-providing industries at about 39 percent.

Table Two
Missouri Women's 2007 Employment in Top Male Traditional Jobs
(Percentage of Workforce)

Occupation	Male Percentage	Female Percentage
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	95%	5%
Laborers, freight, stock, and material movers, hand	81%	19%
Carpenters	98%	2%
Maintenance and repair workers, general	97%	3%
Grounds, maintenance workers	94%	6%
Construction workers	97%	3%
Security guards and gaming surveillance officers	77%	23%
Industrial truck and tractor operators	94%	6%
Automotive service technicians and mechanics	99%	1%
Clergy	85%	15%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Missouri Economic Research Information Center (MERIC) Long-term Occupational Projections, MERIC Occupational Employment and Wage Survey.

More women are employed in the service-providing industries than the goods-producing industries. In Missouri during 2007, the number of injuries sustained by women working in service-providing industries was mostly concentrated in the trade, transportation and utilities and the education and health services major industry sectors.

Length of Service

Data for 2007 indicates that women workers with service of one year or more with their employer were more likely to sustain injuries or illnesses than those with less than one year's service. Chart Two (page 6) reveals that nearly two-thirds of women injured during 2007 had service of one year or more with their employer. The highest percentage was incurred by women with more than 5 years of service.

Time Away from Work

Missouri data shows that nearly half (48.4 percent) of female workers whose injuries or illnesses resulted in days away from work were off their job for five days or less (Chart Three on page 6). The highest percentage of cases (21.1 percent) involved those where the injured or ill female worker was away from work for more than 30 days.

Table Three
***Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work
by occupation and gender, Missouri Private Industry Sector, 2007***

Occupation	Males	Females
Management, business, financial	210	420
Professional and related	370	1,030
Service	1,580	1,830
Sales and related	450	490
Office and administrative support	450	830
Farming, fishing, and forestry	40	20
Construction and extractive	2,120	40
Installation, maintenance, and repair	1,600	40
Production	2,120	940
Transportation and material moving	4,250	560

Source of Injury

The main source of injury or illness for women is floor, ground surfaces (Chart Four on page 7). This source accounts for over one-third of the injuries sustained during 2007.

Part of Body

Women tend to sustain injuries in the same parts of the body as their male counterparts. As is typically the case with male and female workers in Missouri, the part of body most often affected by a nonfatal occupational injury or illness is the trunk. This remained true during 2007. Almost one-third of the Missouri cases involved trunk injuries (Chart Five on page 7). The next most common body areas affected were the upper and lower extremities.

Nature of Injury

Male and female workers both have sprains, strains as their most common nature or type of injury. Sprains, strains accounted for 40.9 percent of the nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses sustained by women in 2007 (Chart Six on page 8). Certain work-related injuries are more prevalent in women. Women represented over two-thirds of the carpal tunnel syndrome cases during 2007 and 75 percent of the tendonitis cases. Women also sustained slightly more multiple traumatic injuries than men.

Event or Exposure

Over 60 percent of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses sustained by women in Missouri were a result of overexertion, falls (to lower level and on the same level) and contact with objects and equipment. Overexertion was the most common injury event for women during 2007 (Chart Seven on page 8). Women were more likely than men to

receive injuries due to events such as repetitive motion, and assaults by other persons. Female workers in Missouri received 76.5 percent of the injuries due to assault or violent act by other persons during 2007. However, injuries incurred due to assault or violent act represented less than 3 percent of all workplace injuries incurred by women in Missouri.

Table Four
Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses by Industry Sector and Gender,
Missouri Private Industry Sector, 2007

<i>Private Industry Sector</i>	Males	Male %	Females	Female %
Goods Producing	4,980	84.4%	920	15.6%
Natural Resources and Mining	140	87.5%	20	12.5%
Construction	2,140	99.1%	20	0.9%
Manufacturing	2,700	75.4%	880	24.6%
Service Providing*	8,230	60.6%	5,280	38.9%
Trade, transportation and utilities*	5,140	75.9%	1,560	23.0%
Information	100	52.6%	90	47.4%
Financial activities	190	27.5%	500	72.5%
Professional and business services	1,210	76.1%	380	23.9%
Education and health services	370	14.9%	2,120	85.1%
Leisure and hospitality	820	61.2%	520	38.8%
Other services	400	75.5%	130	24.5%

*Gender not reported accounted for 80 cases in the trade, transportation and utilities private industry sector representing 1.2 percent of the total for this sector and .6 percent of the total for the service providing industry sectors.

Day and Time of Injury

Chart Eight (page 9) depicts the day of the week women incurred nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses in Missouri during 2007. Wednesday was the day of the week with the highest percentage of injuries sustained at 24 percent. Chart Nine (page 9) indicates the time of day the injuries occurred. The data reveals that these injuries clustered around the periods of 8:01 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (24 percent) and from 12:01 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (22.3 percent). Nearly half of injuries and illnesses sustained by women in Missouri therefore occurred during the more common work period of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Chart Ten (page 10) depicts how long women were at work before the injury occurred. The data indicates that most of the injuries or illnesses occurred between 2 to 4 hours after these workers had begun work.

Closing Summary

Overall, during 2007, women experienced far fewer nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses than their male counterparts. Female workers also experience injuries and illnesses that are disproportionately low when compared to their percentage in the labor force. Women will generally incur work-related injuries and illnesses that are unique to them and the types of work they do. Most of the injury and illness disparity can be explained by the different employment patterns of men and women within the various occupations and industries.

Chart Two: Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work, Women and Length of Service with Employer, Missouri Private Industry, 2007

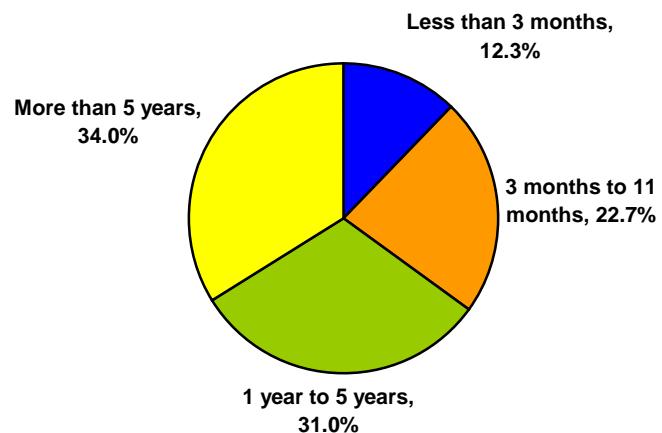


Chart Three: Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, Women and Number of Days Away from Work - Missouri Private Industry, 2007

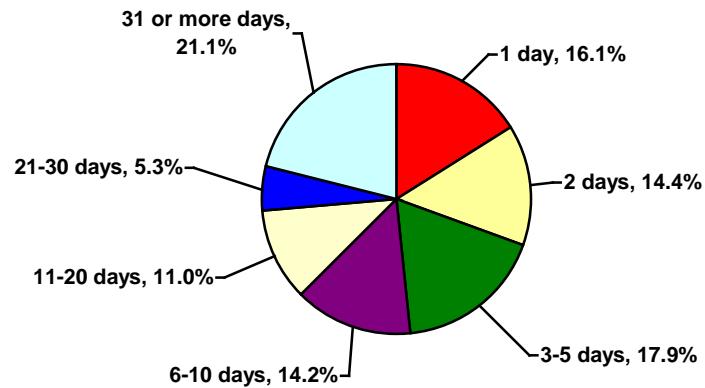


Chart Four: Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, Women and Source of Injury - Missouri Private Industry, 2007

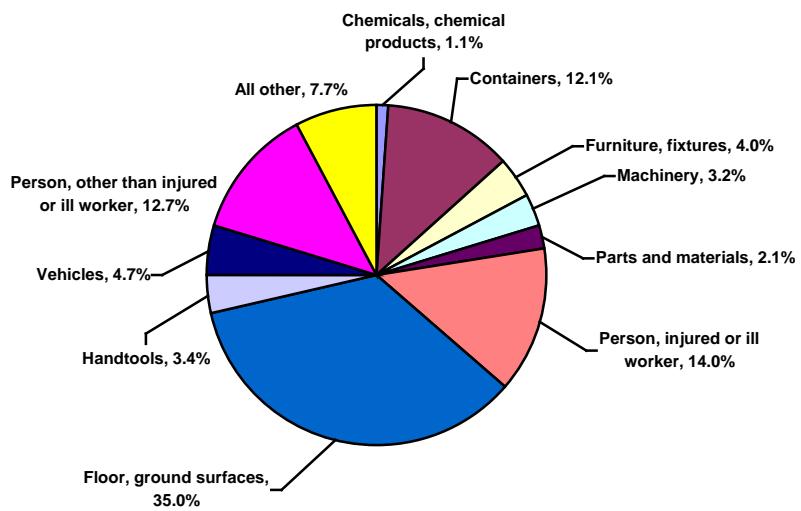


Chart Five: Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, Women and Part of Body Affected - Missouri Private Industry, 2007

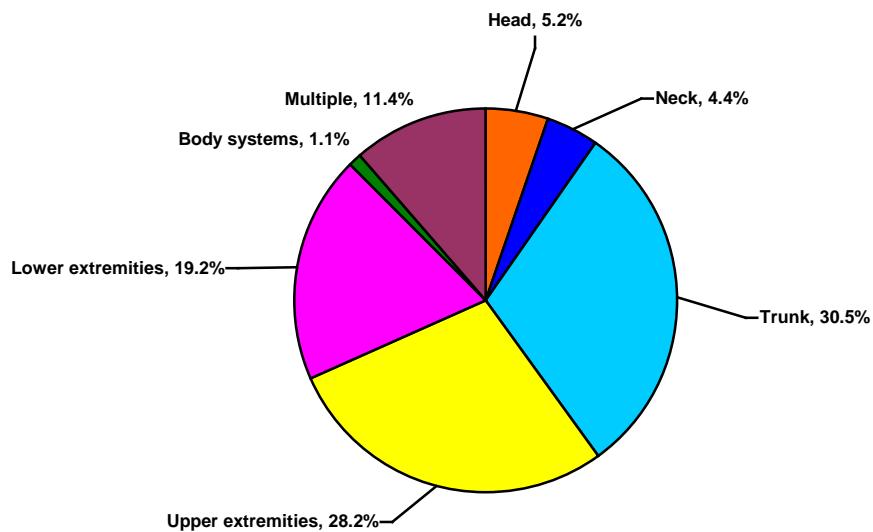


Chart Six: Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, Women and Nature of Injury - Missouri Private Industry, 2007

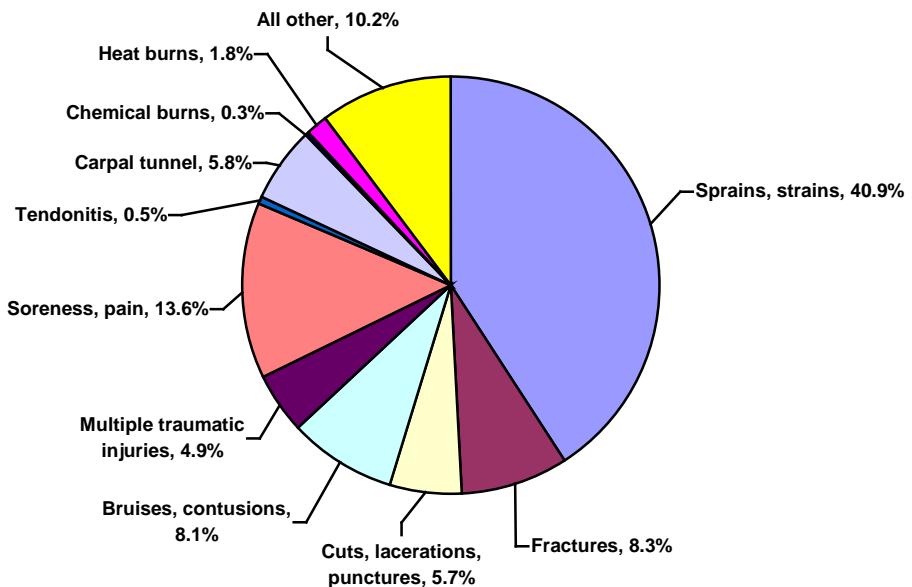


Chart Seven: Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, Women and Event or Exposure - Missouri Private Industry, 2007

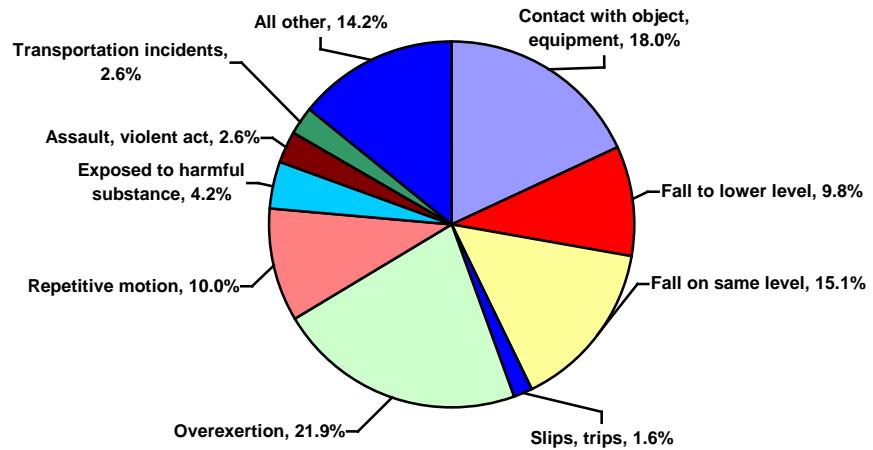


Chart Eight: Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, Women and Day of Week of Injury - Missouri Private Industry, 2007

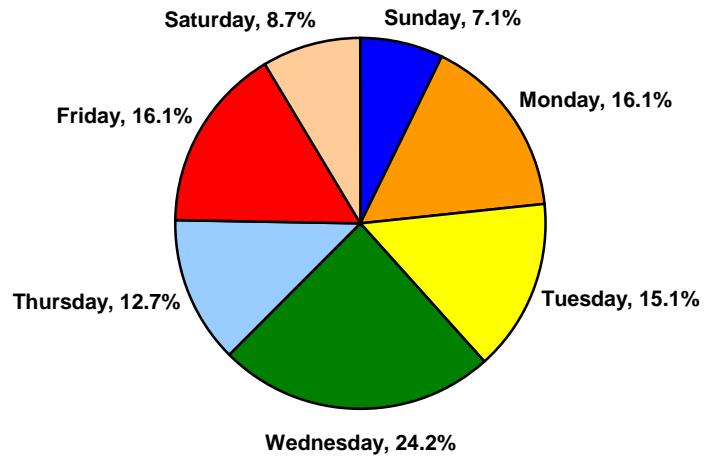


Chart Nine: Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, Women and Time of Day Injury Occurred - Missouri Private Industry, 2007

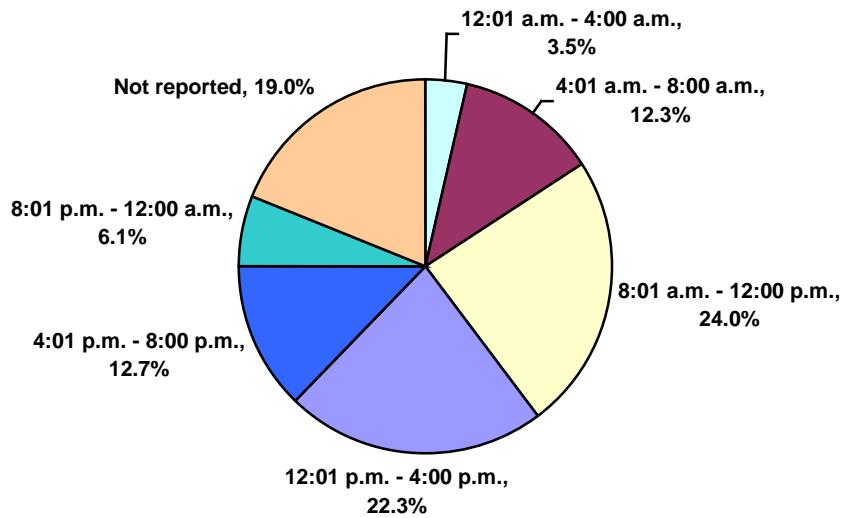


Chart Ten: Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, Women and Number of Hours on Shift When Injury Occurred - Missouri Private Industry, 2007

